

SITUATION REPORT NO. 9
INCIDENT NO. 2005-075
DATE: June 14, 2005 Time: 5:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck ND 58505

1. **NATURE OF DISASTER:** **Severe Summer Storms and Flooding** – Governor John Hoeven has issued a statewide emergency declaration for severe thunderstorms that have produced abnormal amounts of rainfall, hail and high winds and continued flooding in the Devils Lake Basin, beginning April 9 and continuing.
2. **DEATHS AND INJURIES:** No changes from previous reports.
3. **DAMAGES:** The Bismarck Office of the National Weather Service (NWS) lead meteorologist predicts thunderstorm activity possibly the afternoon and evening of June 16 in the western portion of North Dakota. On June 18, there is a potential for typical summer late afternoon/evening thunderstorm. Storm activity is expected to be confined to the central and western portions of the state; forecasts indicate the eastern part of the state will remain dry.

The State Operations Center (SOC) received the following reports of storm activity from local emergency managers and agriculture officials:

Billing County

A crucial connection point between two main roads in the county was damaged during the recent storms. A culvert is washing out and is eroding at a point in the road where there is no alternate route available.

Cass County

The Cass County United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Emergency Board reported excess rain, wind and hail damage that began May 27, 2005 and is continuing. Approximately 220,000 acres were affected by the recent rain, including preventive planting, hail, and excess precipitation.

Eddy County

Heavy rains throughout the county left fields and roads saturated and caused the James and Sheyenne Rivers to rise above flood stage. Officials report erosion has occurred around a slough two miles west of New Rockford. Along Eddy County Highway 1, about 16 miles east of Sheyenne, water is flowing over a portion of the eastbound lane. County road crews are placing signs to warn motorists and will be monitoring other road conditions as needed. Crews are

concerned road saturation will not withstand heavy traffic. Rainfall on June 13 measured 0.75 inches in both the New Rockford and Sheyenne areas.

Emmons County

The Emmons County USDA Emergency Board reported large hail, damaging winds and rain caused major damage to crops in the southwest. The Emergency Board estimated 65,000 acres were affected. Other parts of the county received up to five inches of rain that damaged fences, roads and farm buildings. Seeded crop received 75 to 100 percent damage. Hay crops have been damaged so that the original harvesting of crop will be delayed until the crop recovers through regrowth. Row crops of soybeans and sunflowers received major damage.

Grand Forks County

The City of Northwood is pumping wastewater full-time into the streets. More homes have been damaged by the additional rainfall with nearly every basement in the city sustaining some form of water damage. Damage assessment forms and cleanup kits are being distributed at City Hall. The cities of Thompson and Emerado have requested restricted water usage due to lift stations operating at maximum or above capacity

Griggs County

The Griggs County USDA Emergency Board reported the county has received up to 10 inches of rain. Small grains had been seeded by May 1 but there maybe drowned acres. Most of the planted corn crops failed. Only 50 percent of the soybeans, edible beans and sunflowers will not be planted, which amounts to about 60,472 acres of total acres not planted.

Richland County

The Richland County USDA Emergency Board indicated excessive rain and high winds caused fields to become saturated. Because of earlier rains, some fields will not be able to be seeded. Crops that have just emerged could become damaged if the rain continues. Ditches and drains are full. Spraying crops has now become an issue because of the wet fields.

Sargent County

Loss of hay crops and drowned out pastures have been reported by the County USDA Emergency Board. An inspector estimates crop damage at 30 to 40 percent due to drown out and crop disease. Spraying will be difficult, since fields are so saturated. The County Emergency Manager has received one report of water in the basement. Most damages are to crops in the northeast section of the county. Water is encroaching the roadways in several areas as water drainage areas are full and if the water does not recede, may compound water saturation problems to roadbeds.

Steele County

The Steele County USDA Emergency Board indicated up to 12 inches of rain has fallen since May 1. Small grains and corn were seeded and have failed acres. Only 50 percent of the soybeans and edible bean were planted.

Trail County

The County USDA Emergency Board reported the county has been affected by the excess moisture with the western third of the county being hardest hit. The Emergency Board estimates that 106,750 acres have been affected.

Pembina County

The County Emergency Manager reported rainfall ranging from 0.49 inches northwest of Cavalier to 1.35 inches in the Edinburg. A resident in a subdivision in Cavalier Township reported water in a ditch, his yard and garage, requiring public works crews to initiate pumping operations. The City of Drayton has plugged drains.

Walsh County

The Walsh County Emergency Manager reported that the county has received an additional 0.65 to 1.1 inches of rain during the past 24 hours. The moisture continues to cause saturation problems, river rises and basement seepage.

River Statements

The Grand Forks Office of the NWS reported a flood watch is in effect for southeastern North Dakota and the Red River Valley. Flood warnings remain in effect for the James, Red and Souris Rivers.

River forecasts from the NWS, based on current observations, are as follows:

River	Flood Stage	Last Report	Comments
Red River at Wahpeton	10 feet	12.5 feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 13.5 feet on June 15
Red River at Fargo	17 feet	24.43 feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 27.0 feet on June 19-20
Red River at East Grand Forks	28 feet	33.4feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 42.0 feet on June 19
Red River at Oslo	28 feet	28.2 feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 36 feet on June 19
Red River at Drayton	32 feet	28.2 feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 40 feet on June 20
Red River at Pembina	42 feet	33.6 feet @ 10:30 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 46 feet next week
Goose River at Hillsboro	7 feet	11.4 feet @ 9:45 p.m. June 13	Crest at 12.6 feet on June 16
Maple River at Mapleton	902 feet	908.2 feet @ 9:45 9.m. June 13	Crest @ 908.7 feet on June 14
Sheyenne River at West Fargo	16.5 feet	17.8 feet @ 9:45 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 22.4 feet on June 17
Sheyenne River at Harwood	884 feet	886.4 feet @ 9:45 p.m. June 13	Crest @ 890.4 feet on June 17
James River at Ludden Dam	12 feet	12.21 feet @ 7:00 a.m. June 114	Crest @ 12.3 feet on June 14
James River at LaMoure	14 feet	9.28 feet @ 9:30 a.m. June 14	Crested, river trend is falling
James River at Oakes	93 feet	92.64 feet @ 9:30 a.m. June 14	Crested, river trend is falling
Souris River at Towner	52 feet	51.4 feet @ 8:00 a.m. June 9	Crested, river trend is falling

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No changes from previous reports.

STATE: In addition to previous reports, the N.D. Aeronautics Commission, the Bank of North Dakota, the N.D. Insurance Department, the N.D. Geological Survey and the N.D. Fire Marshal are monitoring conditions and providing assistance, as necessary.

FEDERAL: No changes from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: On June 13, members of the N.D. Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) held a conference call to discuss the problems caused by the recent thunderstorms and their assistance efforts.

The Pembina Emergency Manager has requested flood cleanup kits from the Salvation Army and will also be contacting the American Red Cross.

The Grand Forks County Emergency Manager has acquired 100 cleanup kits from the Salvation Army.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: On June 14, the State Operations Center (SOC) held a briefing for functional and task coordinators to discuss response activities related to the recent severe summer storms and flooding. Topics included: each agency's role in flood fight efforts; plans for a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for Small Business Administration (SBA), Individual and Public Assistance, which will begin June 21; unmet needs efforts; insurance concerns; drainage issues; and the availability of low-interest loans. Participating agencies included: the Governor's Office, the Bank of North Dakota, the N.D. Department of Agriculture, the N.D. National Guard, the N.D. Aeronautics Commission, the N.D. Department of Transportation, the N.D. Insurance Department, the N.D. Geological Survey, the N.D. Fire Marshal, the N.D. Department of Human Services, the N.D. Human Resource Management Services, the N.D. State Electrical Board, the N.D. Division of Risk Management and the N.D. Division of Homeland Security. Agency reports are as follows:

N.D. Fire Marshal – Fire department personnel throughout the state have performed warning and rescue operations and assisted communities pump water from basements.

Geological Survey – Geologists are investigating reports of minor mud slide activity in Ward County due to ground saturation and will be available to investigate other potential sites as needed.

Department of Human Services – Human Service staff members have conducted checks with nursing homes assistance required and also the availability for temporary housing for displaced citizens. DHS will be participating in the PDA to identify any resources the agency can provide.

Electrical Board – Inspectors are assisting power cooperatives, electrical companies and contractors to identify water-damaged circuits in private residences and businesses. The board is disseminating information regarding safe restoration and replacement, as outlined in National Electric Manufacturers Association (NEMA) guidelines.

Insurance Department – While flood damages under homeowner's policies are not covered; workers are available to assist residents with any insurance questions. Public buildings may be covered for flood damage by the Fire and Tornado Fund.

Department of Transportation – Numerous minor roads were temporarily underwater, sustaining minimal damage with some wing-wall damage at overpasses. Road crews are working in LaMoure, Richland and Ward Counties. Crews are available to provide high capacity pumps to enhance drainage when requested.

Aeronautics Commission – The Commission is in the process of licensing out-of-state aerial applicators to support widespread crop spraying in fields too saturated to perform ground-based spray applications. Area farms are falling behind timelines to treat crops to control weeds.

N.D. Department of Agriculture – The Department has noted that a lot of acres across the state will not be planted due to flood and saturation conditions. Prevented planting may be covered by insurance.

N.D. National Guard – The Guard is prepared to support requests for assistance and has moved resources to areas of the state impacted by storms and floods. Water buffaloes were provided to the City of Souris when their water system was shut down during recent flooding.

N.D. Department of Health– Health officials have assisted the City of Souris with water quality testing after its water system was shut down to reduce flows into the sewer system during recent flooding. The department remains available for any additional requests for matters regarding public health.

Grand Forks County

Grand Forks officials plan to meet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on June 14 to review response plans and determine actions at each projected river level.

Pembina County

On June 14, the Pembina County Water Resource Board requested permission from the N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to enhance drainage from a ditch along N.D. Highway 44. NDDOT has issued a permit to the Pembina County Water Resource Board to make recommended changes to the drainage ditch.

On June 14, Pembina and Walsh Counties Board of Commissioners declared an emergency.

On June 14, the Billings County Board of Commissioners declared a disaster.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous years.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No changes from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The NWS lists quantitative precipitation forecasts on its website: www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/qpf2.shtml.

The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Susan Reinertson, Director
N.D. Division of Homeland Security